a fortnightly basis. The patrol will be briefed and de-briefed jointly by the concerned Coy. Commanders. The progress will be reviewed from time to time.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Discussions between the representatives of De Beers and Chairman Hindustan Diamond Company Limited

1093. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether three directors of the South African company, De Beers came to Bombay in the latter half of 1988;

(b) whether they held any discussion with the Chairman of the Hindustan Diamond Company Limited Bombay; and

(c) if so, what was the nature of these discussions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) The Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Hindustan Diamond Company Ltd., have reported that there is no information about the visit of three Directors of South African Company, De Beers, to Bombay during 1988.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Effect of Sale of 25 per cent products by 100 per cent export oriented units in domestic market on domestic industry

1094. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI V. GOPALSAMY:
SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government take into consideration the effect on the domestic industry, while allowing 100 per cent export oriented units to sell 25 per cent of the production in the domestic market; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. In order to protect the domestic industry, the facility is accorded on a case by case basis upto 25 per cent of the production and subject to the payment of appropriate Customs and other duties.

Discriminatory increase in prices of rough diamonds

1095. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the South African company, De Beers which distributes rough diamonds through its subsidiaries in London has imposed from March, 1989 a highly discriminatory increase in the prices of roughs of the varieties purchased by the Indian diamond cutting industry;

(b) whether Government have protested against such discriminatory price rise and unfair trade practice which is likely to hurt the Indian industry; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to prevent such discriminatory increase in the prices of rough diamonds in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI): (a) to (c) The Central Selling Organisation, London, had announced in March, 1989 price increase for the rough diamonds by an average of 15.5 per cent. However, the actual impact of the price increase differed for different qualities and